

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 600
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3934

(202) 371-2600

FACSIMILE: (202) 371-2540; (202) 371-6566

ROBERT GREENE STERNE
EDWARD J. KESSLER
JORGE A. GOLDSTEIN
SAMUEL L. FOX
DAVID K.S. CORNWELL
ROBERT W. ESMOND
TRACY-GENE G. DURKIN
MICHELE A. CIMBALA
MICHAEL B. RAY
ROBERT E. SOKOHL
ERIC K. STEFFE
MICHAEL Q. LEE

STEVEN R. LUDWIG
JOHN M. COVERT*
LINDA E. ALCORN
RAZ E. FLESHNER
ROBERT C. MILLONIG
MICHAEL V. MESSINGER
JUDITH U. KIM
TIMOTHY J. SHEA, JR.
DONALD R. MCPHAIL
PATRICK E. GARRETT
STEPHEN G. WHITESIDE
JEFFREY T. HELVEY*

HEIDI L. KRAUS
JEFFREY R. KURIN
RAYMOND MILLIEN
PATRICK D. O'BRIEN
LAWRENCE B. BUGAISKY
CRYSTAL D. SAYLES*
EDWARD W. YEE
ALBERT L. FERRO*
DONALD R. BANOWIT
PETER A. JACKMAN
MOLLY A. MCCALL

TERESA U. MEDLER
JEFFREY S. WEAVER
KRISTIN K. VIDOVICH
KENDRICK P. PATTERSON
DONALD J. FEATHERSTONE
GRANT E. REED
VINCENT L. CAPUANO
JOHN A. HARROUN*
MATTHEW M. CATLETT*
NATHAN K. KELLEY*
ALBERT J. FASULO II *

KAREN R. MARKOWICZ**
SUZANNE E. ZISKA**
BRIAN J. DEL BUONO**
ANDREA J. KAMAGE**
NANCY J. LEITH**
TARJA H. NAUKKARINEN**

*BAR OTHER THAN D.C.
**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

March 8, 2000

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

(202) 789-5525

INTERNET ADDRESS:

BRIAND@SKGF.COM

*Via Hand Carry to Exr. Remy Yucel
Art Unit 1636*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/177,387; Filed: October 23, 1998
For: **Recombinational Cloning Using Nucleic Acids Having Recombination Sites**
Inventors: HARTLEY *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.2850004/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment; and
2. One return post card.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

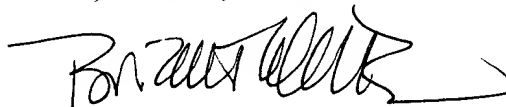
RECEIVED
MAR - 8 PM 3:22
MAR - 8 PM 3:22
MAR - 8 PM 3:22

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
March 8, 2000
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Del Buono", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian J. Del Buono
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

RWE/BJD/dmb
Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HARTLEY *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/177,387

Filed: October 23, 1998

For: **Recombinational Cloning Using
Nucleic Acids Having
Recombination Sites**

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Yucel, I.

Atty. Docket: 0942.2850004/RWE/BJD

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

*Via Hand Carry To Exr. Remy Yucel
Art Unit 1636*

RECEIVED
MAR 10 1999
00 MAR - 8 PM 3:30

Sir:

In advance of prosecution of the Continued Prosecution Application filed in the above matter on December 23, 1999, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

Please amend the application as follows: